UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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DP/PROJECTS/7079

ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
BRAZIL

IPF:(1987-91) $17 500 000

(BRA/89/007) - Support to the Implementation of a Professional Training System for Technological Development
(Supplementary Assistance)

Date of approval:	7 March 1991
Expected duration:	Two years and three months
Proposed executing agency:	Government
Government implementing agency:	Manpower Secretariat of the Ministry of Labour
Proposed UNDP contribution:	Nil
Government cost sharing:	$ 68 000 Source of funds: IPF
Previous UNDP budget:	$671 200
Total UNDP budget:	$739 200

Project background

In 1987 the Ministry of Labour signed a loan agreement with the World Bank, intended to improve the national system for professional training, in an attempt to adapt it to rapid changes in technology. Little was done for two years, due to the economic crisis, government budget cuts and low salaries, which made it very difficult for the Government to hire and keep professionals qualified to manage loan projects. At the same time, the country was undergoing important political/institutional changes that resulted in the new Constitution in 1988, which guaranteed new rights to Brazilian citizens. This fact, combined with the worsening economy, gave rise to a growing labour movement which clashed with the prevailing paternalistic, undemocratic labour practices that date back to the 1930s. These changes in labour laws required the Labour Ministry to prepare government administrators, union leaders and members of the academic community to take on new roles as needed for instituting the practice of free negotiation and collective labour bargaining.

The Ministry of Labour sought UNDP technical co-operation for assistance in the urgent task of putting the new labour laws into practice, as defined by the 1988 Constitution, as well as in the implementation of the loan agreement. This preparatory assistance project develops preliminary activities for the implementation of a management unit for the loan project and trains personnel in labour mediation and negotiation. It also supports the government in elaborating an international technical co-operation project focussed on improving the national professional training system.

Description of project

The project intends to support the Ministry of Labour in implementing a management unit for World Bank loan 2810-BR and to elaborate the technical co-operation project for strengthening the national training system.

Specifically, the project will produce the following outputs by the end of preparatory assistance: (a) a management team for loan 2810-BR, organized and able to co-ordinate the technical, administrative and financial areas of its execution; (b) a proposal for the project's administrative and financial management to be submitted to IBRD, including operation systematics, instruments, terms and responsibilities linked to the programming, monitoring and supervision of execution of the loan agreement; (c) a proposal for an international technical co-operation project; (d) a detailed pluri-annual technical co-operation workplan in areas defined as priorities in agreement; and (e) technical assistance and training of human resources, including a systematized plan of information and training in labour relations and negotiations and a study programme for training union leaders.

Inputs

UNDP will provide through the Government, national professionals totalling 79 man-months specializing in the management and execution of loan projects; subcontracts are for agencies specialized in the development of studies and training of technical personnel in the Labour Ministry, union leaders and professionals from academics, in labour relations and negotiation; and training including two seminars and four courses.

Financial data

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Personnel	262 800
Subcontract	209 600
Training	264 800
Miscellaneous	2 000
Total	739 200

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